

PEO ACWA

PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE, ASSEMBLED CHEMICAL WEAPONS ALTERNATIVES



► **MISSION:** The safe elimination of chemical weapons at Pueblo and Blue Grass by Sept. 30, 2023.

OVERVIEW

The Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PEO ACWA) is overseeing the safe and environmentally compliant destruction of the remaining U.S. chemical weapons stockpile in Colorado and Kentucky. Headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, the ACWA program has three field locations: the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) located at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot in Pueblo, Colorado, the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) located at the Blue Grass Army Depot near Richmond, Kentucky, and the Anniston Field Office located at the Anniston Army Depot in Anniston, Alabama. PEO ACWA remains committed to completing stockpile destruction operations by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty commitment of Sept. 30, 2023. U.S. Public Law mandates stockpile destruction by Dec. 31, 2023. After the remaining U.S. stockpile is destroyed, PEO ACWA will be responsible for overseeing the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act closure of the sites in Colorado and Kentucky. Closure involves decontaminating all systems that destroyed agent and decommissioning or destroying buildings and equipment not slated for reuse. At the completion of its mission, PEO ACWA will conclude as a program and vacate the sites in Colorado, Kentucky, Alabama and Maryland.

CONNECT WITH PEO ACWA

For PEO ACWA destruction progress, news and information, visit our website at www.peoacwa.army.mil. For an overview of the program, watch the U.S. [Chemical Weapons Destruction 2021](#) video on the ACWA YouTube channel.

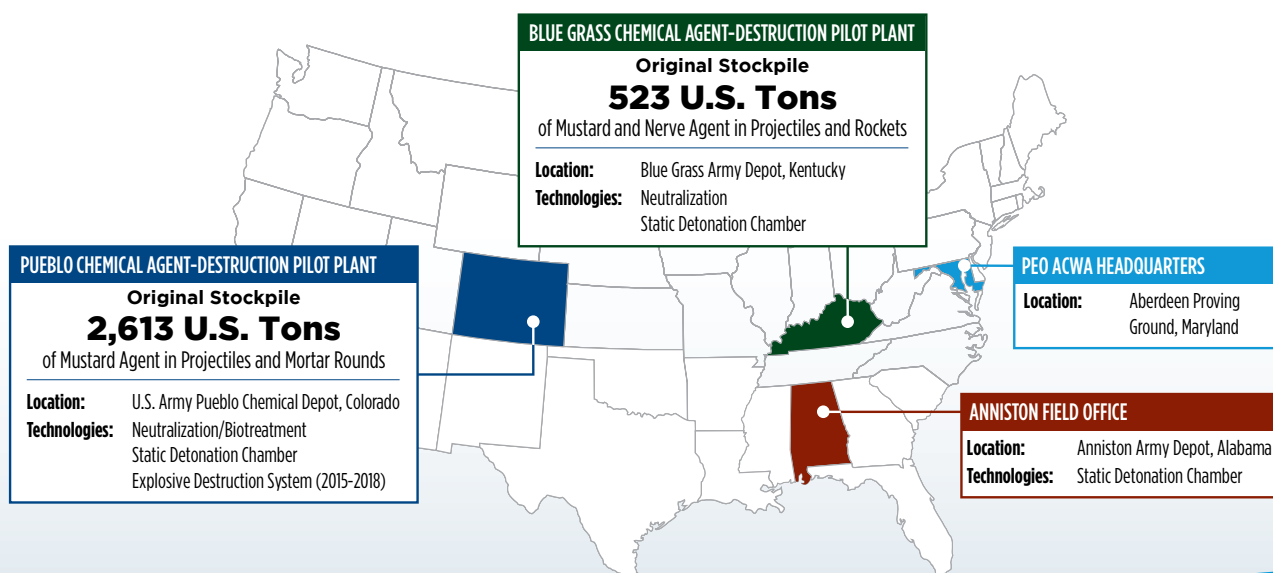
Sign Up

Sign up for *Connect with ACWA* e-newsletters.

Subscribe

Subscribe to PEO ACWA's YouTube channel for progress updates and Citizens' Advisory Commission public meetings.

For more information, contact Katherine DeWeese at (410) 306-4024 or katherine.b.deweese.civ@army.mil.



A PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION



PUEBLO CHEMICAL AGENT-DESTRUCTION PILOT PLANT (PCAPP)



BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL AGENT-DESTRUCTION PILOT PLANT (BGCAPP)



PCAPP OVERVIEW

PCAPP is destroying 2,613 U.S. tons of the mustard agent stored in artillery projectiles and mortar rounds using neutralization followed by biotreatment or an Explosive Destruction Technology. In 2002, PEO ACWA selected the Bechtel Pueblo Team as the systems contractor responsible for the design, construction, systemization, pilot testing, operations and closure of the pilot plant. Operations are scheduled to conclude by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty commitment of Sept. 30, 2023. U.S. Public Law mandates stockpile destruction by Dec. 31, 2023. Upon elimination of the stockpile in Colorado, the PCAPP site will close according to all laws and regulations, and the Pueblo Chemical Depot will be deactivated in accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure Act.

[!\[\]\(de95854c7ee024cfadc48187bbb781b2_img.jpg\) Colorado Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2021 Year in Review](#)

PCAPP EXPLOSIVE DESTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

The Static Detonation Chamber complex began destroying 4.2-in. mortar rounds on Feb. 19, 2022. The thermally heated detonation chambers detonate or deflagrate munitions unsuitable for processing by the main plant's automated equipment. Operations are scheduled to be complete by Sept. 30, 2023. In addition, the Explosive Destruction System, another form of Explosive Destruction Technology, destroyed problematic munitions in Pueblo from 2015 to 2018.

[!\[\]\(c50c8b7b2cc2cf9ff925edec0ee94c0d_img.jpg\) Static Detonation Chamber: How it Works](#)

BGCAPP OVERVIEW

BGCAPP is destroying 523 U.S. tons of mustard agent and the nerve agents VX and GB, or Sarin, stored in rockets and projectiles using

neutralization or an Explosive Destruction Technology. The BGCAPP team has destroyed all projectiles and is destroying M55 rockets. In 2003, the Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass team was awarded a systems contract for the design, construction, systemization, operations and closure of the facility. Operations are scheduled to conclude by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty commitment of Sept. 30, 2023. U.S. Public Law mandates stockpile destruction by Dec. 31, 2023. Upon elimination of the stockpile in Kentucky, the BGCAPP site will be closed in accordance with all laws and regulations; however, the Blue Grass Army Depot will continue to provide support to joint warfighters through other missions.

[!\[\]\(f60b7a900783ac3fd531bfd9c111be6d_img.jpg\) Kentucky Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2021 Year in Review](#)

BGCAPP EXPLOSIVE DESTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

Two Static Detonation Chamber units will destroy overpacked munitions and drained rocket warheads. From 2019 to 2021, one unit was used to destroy the entire mustard stockpile in Kentucky. The thermally heated detonation chamber destroyed the munitions, which were determined to be unsuitable for automated processing in the main plant. Operations are scheduled to be complete by Sept. 30, 2023.

[!\[\]\(eabd9f9ababee93effadc3b380fe65fd_img.jpg\) Static Detonation Chamber Increases Workforce Safety](#)

STATIC DETONATION CHAMBER



A Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant ordnance technician loads the first 4.2-in mortar round to be processed by the Static Detonation Chamber on Feb. 19, 2022.